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*December 5th 1949 to December 20th 1949.*







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## OUR STORY

THE DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY saw the light of day following a meeting in February 1941 of a group of people interested in giving the music-loving Public of Dublin the class of productions it deserved. Looking back a more foolhardy enterprise cannot be imagined seeing the World was then in the second year of history's greatest war but the founders courage and enthusiasm were not to be baulked by such an obstacle and the Society's progress since has more than justified their optimism.

Three months later having meanwhile received financial guarantees from a small group of supporters the first season of opera was presented in the "Gaiety"; the Management of that theatre having given generously of their help; a policy they have maintained to the Society down to this day. This first season provided the success necessary to spur our founders to continue their efforts with redoubled vigour and season has followed season with ever increasing triumph.

Not content with showing Dublin audiences its work, the Society has given loudly-applauded performances in Cork, Limerick and Belfast; tours which have given rise to a demand for return visits. We have now behind us the magnificent record of having produced some 26 operas in 15 two week seasons and thus we have built up a repertoire, unequalled even among the famous commercial opera companies, which includes not only the well-known and proven box-office works but such seldom seen operas as "Aida", "Samson and Delilah" and "The Flying Dutchman". Not the least of our achievements was to bring to Dublin the opera "Pelleas and Melisande" with its Opera Comique Cast from Paris and we hope other Continental Companies come in the future. We have brought to Dublin from season to season Artistes, and we are proud to have given to opera in England, Artistes like James Johnston and Patricia Black who are now earning their laurels with the Covent Garden and Sadlers Wells Companies of International repute. The years of war made many difficulties not the least of which was the costuming of the various operas. Here again hard work and enthusiasm made light of obstacles and the Society embarked on the acquisition of its own wardrobe with the result that to-day all or the greater part of the cast of each opera can be dressed without further cost and the Society has an asset worth many thousands of pounds.

No part of the Society's record could have been achieved without the selfless labour of a few people since the ambition to succeed must be capably co-ordinated and in its Officers lies the Society's greatest assets. The President and Chairman since inception, Dr. J. F. Larchet and Commdt. W. O'Kelly respectively, have given untiringly of their skill and energy and, ably assisted in their wise guidance by the Musical Director, Lt. Col. J. M. Doyle, have built the Society to its present pre-eminence in this City.

In recent years there was brought into being a "Patronage Scheme" whereby the Public can assist the Society in its efforts to produce the best of Grand Opera free of the haunting spectre of box-office failures. Full details of the privileges available to Patrons can be obtained from Mr. James J. O'Connor, 74 Merrion Sq.

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# Opera Programme

December 12th. - 20th.

December 12th & 14th

## IL TROVATORE

(Verdi)

CAST :

Doris Doree — James Johnston

Patricia Black — Bruce Dargavel

Catherine Lawson — Jack Harte

December 13th, 15th & 16th

## TALES OF HOFFMAN

(Offenbach)

CAST :

Franz Vroons — Blanche Turner

Kitty Corcoran — Catherine Lawson

## SONG RECITAL

## JOAN HAMMOND

Accompanist—JEANNIE REDDIN

Sunday, 18th December, at 7.45 p.m.

December 17th

## LA TOSCA

(Puccini)

CAST :

Franz Vroons — Doris Doree

Otokar Kraus — Joseph Flood

Martin Dempsey — Robert Carey

December 17th (Mat.), 19th & 20th

## HANSEL & GRETEL

(Humperdinck)

CAST :

Josephine Proust — Jean Mountford

Edmond Donlevy, — Kitty Corcoran

Maureen Keane

*Booking at Gaiety*

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# PROGRAMME

## FIRST PART.

CATHRYN CORCORAN

**Ave Maria**  
**Angels Guard Thee**

(Otello)

Verdi.  
Benjamin Godard.

FRANZ VROONS

**En Fermant les Yeux**  
**Couplet Song**

(**Manon**)  
(Tales of Hoffmann)

Massenet.  
Offenbach.

PATRICIA BLACK

**Knowest thou the land**  
**Habenera**

(Mignon)  
(Carmen)

Thomas  
Bizet.

## SECOND PART.

CATHRYN CORCORAN

**The Folorn Queen**  
**The Next Market Day**

Arranged—Herbert Hughes.  
Arranged—Herbert Hughes.

PATRICIA BLACK

**The Tryst**  
**Black Roses**

Sibelius.  
Sibelius.

FRANZ VROONS

**Im Wunderschönen Monat Mai**  
**Aus meinen Tränen spreissen**  
**Die Rose, Die Lilie, Die Taube**  
**Wenrich in deine Augen seh**  
**Ich grolle nicht**

Dichterliebe Song Cycle  
by  
Schumann.

PATRICIA BLACK

**O Mio Fernando**  
**Voi Che Sapete**

(La Favorita)  
(Marriage of Figaro)

Donizetti.  
Mozart.

FRANZ VROONS

**Che gelida manina**  
**Eluceran le stelle**

(La Boheme)  
(**La Tosca**)

Puccini.  
Puccini.

FRANZ VROONS & PATRICIA BLACK

**Selected Operatic Duet.**

Accompanist—Miss Jeannie Reddin.

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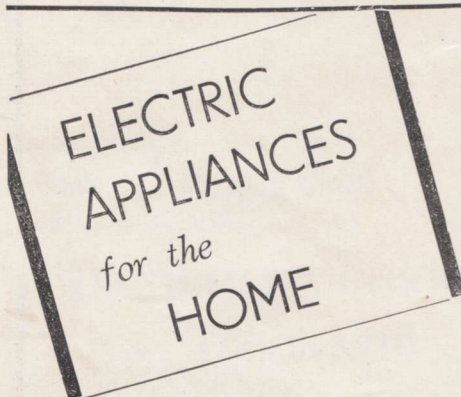
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*Joan Hammond*

# JOAN HAMMOND

RECITAL PROGRAMME. DUBLIN. DECEMBER 18th, 1949.

## GROUP I.

- A. **O del mio amato ben.** di Stefano Donaudy.  
B. **Pace mio Dio.** Aria from "La forza del destino" Guiseppe Verdi.

## GROUP II.

- A. **When daisies pied.** Words—Shakespeare. Music—Thomas Arne.  
B. **Drink to me only.** Words—Ben Jonson. Music—Traditional.  
C. **The last rose of summer.** Traditional Irish air. arr. Flotow.  
D. **Oliver Cromwell.** Nursery Rhyme from Suffolk. arr. Biggs.

## GROUP III.

- Scena. **The Letter Song,** from "Eugene Onegin". Peter Tchaikowski.

## INTERVAL

## GROUP IV.

- A. **Troppo signori.** Aria from "Adriana Lecouvreur". Francesco Cilea.  
B. **La mamma morta.** Aria from "Andrea Chenier". Umberto Giordano.

## GROUP V.

- A. **Yung-Yang.** Granville Bantock.  
B. **She wandered down the mountain-side.** Frederic Clay.  
C. **At the Well.** Richard Hageman.

## GROUP VI.

- A. **In quelle trine morbide.** Aria from "Manon Lescaut". Giacomo Puccini.  
B. **Oh se sapeste.** Aria from "La fanciulla del West". Giacomo Puccini.  
C. **Un bel di.** Aria from "Madama Butterfly". Giacomo Puccini.

THE END



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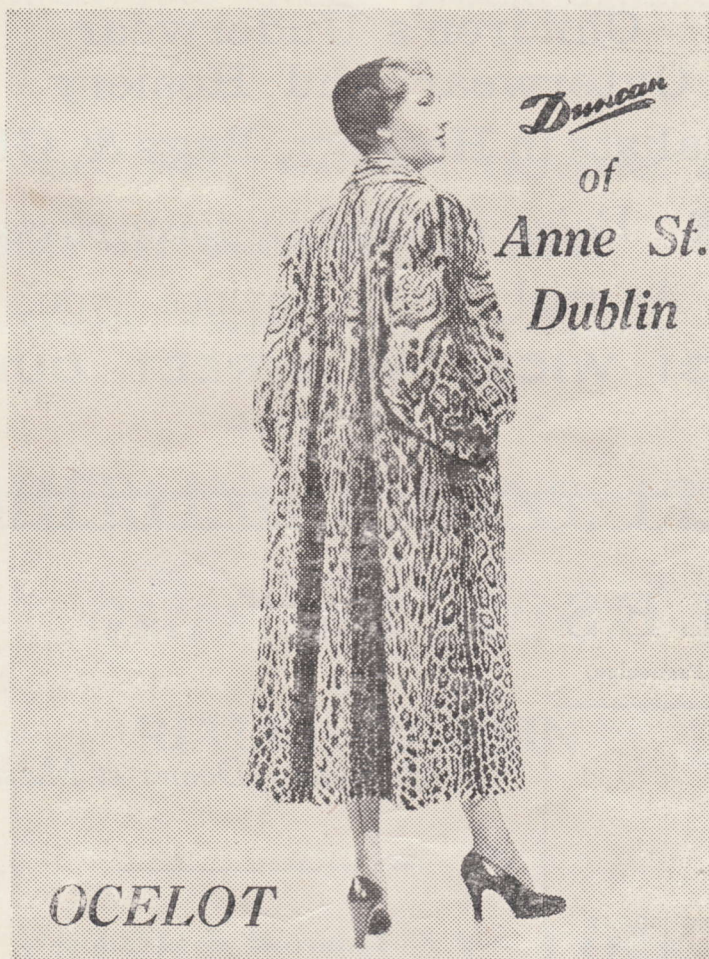


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